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11/8/02 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Ian R. Thompson et al) Examiner: J.E. Redman
Serial No. 09/806,573)
Filed: May 14, 2001) Group: 3634
Title: CABLE GATE)

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GROUP 3634

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to issuing the first Office Action on the merits, please enter this preliminary amendment to the above application.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 151, 282, 287 and 291 to read as follows. The specific revisions to these claims are set forth in Attachment I hereto.

B. 151. (Amended) A gate as claimed in claim 147 wherein said first drive means is located substantially wholly within one of said first or second support means, to thereby limit access to said first drive means.

B2 244. (Amended) A gate as claimed in claim 240 wherein said pulley means further includes a face cam adapted to engage said drive collar, such that any imbalance between said first and second spring acts to hold said face cam stationary, and said drive collar is forced by said face cam to move along said drive shaft to thereby engage or disengage said winch drum.

245. (Amended) A gate as claimed in claim 244 wherein said face cam includes a ramp adapted to cooperate with protrusions on said drive collar.

B3 282. (Amended) A gate as claimed in claim 281 wherein said first line and said third line are each attached to the respective termination means.

B4 287. (Amended) A gate as claimed in claim 286 wherein said removable pin is held in said second support means by a third locking means.

B5 291. (Amended) A gate for controlling passage through an opening including:
a first support means located on one side of the opening;
a second support means located on the other side of the opening;
at least one elongate member, having a first and a second end, extendable across the opening between said first and second support means;
a first drive means to draw in said elongate member to thereby restrict passage through said opening;